

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 JUSE-00 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY SCA:SCS:RJBOYLAN:GJL

APPROVED BY SCA:SCS:LPMULLIN

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JUSTICE, MR. RISTAU, ROOM 3612, MAIN JUSTICE; MR. CHAMBLEE, RM 860
SAFEWAY BLDG.; MR. GRAHAM, RM 736 SAFEWAY BUILDING

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R 051948Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USARMY CID COMMAND

UNCLAS STATE 184567

SECDEF FOR PDASD(C) -- CID COMMAND FOR CIOP-FR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN; (U.S. V. SIMMONS)

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE IN PROSECUTION OF CRIMINAL CASE

REF: STATE 166928

1. U.S. DISTRICT COURT IN W. VA. HAS INFORMED DOJ CRIMINAL
DIVISION THAT IT EXPECTS SPEEDY TRIAL IN SIMMONS CASE, AND
IS CONSIDERING SEPTEMBER TRIAL DATE. DOJ THEREFORE ANXIOUS
TO KNOW STATUS OF REQUEST SET FORTH IN REFTEL. PLEASE
ADVISE.

2. IF DEPOSITIONS TO AUTHENTICATE BANK RECORDS ARE HELD
IN HONG KONG, SIMMONS MAY WELL EXERCISE HIS CONSTI-
TUTIONAL RIGHT TO CONFRONT AUTHENTICATING WITNESSES,
MEANING GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO BRING HIM TO HK. DOJ
EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT SECURITY, AND IS HOPEFUL GOHK
WOULD PERMIT SIMMONS TO BE ACCCOMPANIED BY THREE U.S.
MARSHALS(TO PROVIDE AROUND THE CLOCK SECURITY). CONGEN
REQUESTED TO APPROACH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO ASCERTAIN
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WHETHER GOHK WOULD GRANT PERMISSION FOR SIMMONS' VISIT

UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND FOR PRESENCE OF MARSHALS FOR PURPOSES STATED ABOVE. IF MARSHALS NOT ACCEPTABLE (OR NOT CONSIDERED ADEQUATE FROM SECURITY STANDPOINT) REQUEST ALTERNATIVES BE EXPLORED. IN VIEW OF TIME PRESSURE, EARLY REPLY WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

3. CHIEF OF DOJ'S FOREIGN LITIGATION, RISTAU, PLANS TO TRAVEL TO HK THIS COMING WEEKEND (AUGUST 10) TO CONSULT WITH CONGEN AND LOCAL COUNSEL ON NUMEROUS ISSUES WHICH HAVE ARISEN AS A RESULT OF PENDENCY OF CIVIL ACTION AND CERTIORARI PROCEEDINGS IN HK, CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS IN U.S., AND SUBMISSION OF SETTLEMENT OFFER ON BEHALF OF SIMMONS. RISTAU FAMILIAR WITH ALL ASPECTS OF U.S. CRIMINAL ACTION AND PREPARED TO CLARIFY MATTERS REFERRED TO IN PARA 2, ABOVE, NEXT WEEK. DOJ WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR CABLE ADVICE WHETHER REPRESENTATIVES OF JOHNSON, STOKES AND MASTER PREPARED TO MEET WITH RISTAU NEXT WEEK FOR EXTENDED CONSULTATIONS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE184567
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SCS:RJBOYLAN:GJL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750270-0802
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750880/aaaactei.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 166928
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 FEB 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASSISTANCE IN PROSECUTION OF CRIMINAL CASE
TAGS: CGEN, (US V SIMMONS)
To: HONG KONG
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006